

Watts Working

My Youth Tour Experience

Patriotism is a lost sense all across America these days. Since my trip to Washington, D.C., my interest in how our founding fathers wanted our world to run and my love of our wonderful country have grown tremendously. Sharing an experience with other youth tourists in D.C. during June of 2016 opened my eyes to true democracy inside the American co-op.

I, Sara Pippin, was selected as the 2016 delegate from Randolph Electric Membership Corporation for the Rural Electric Cooperative Youth Tour. A “thank you” would never be enough to show my gratitude toward REMC for this amazing opportunity.



Getting to know other youth tourists

While in Washington, D.C., I shared the experience of a lifetime with other electric cooperative delegates.



Sara Pippin
2016 Youth Tour Delegate

and how they impact their own communities inspired me to represent Randolph County with true pride.

While touring the beautiful monuments and museums, talking with North Carolina lawmakers at the Capitol, and walking along the streets of our nation’s capital, a thought came into my mind about the true American dream founded 240 years ago. Our

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SEPTEMBER 2016

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Randolph EMC offices will be closed Monday, Sept. 5, for Labor Day.

founding fathers created this country on democracy and hard work, which also helped found the electric cooperative. Our President during the Great Depression, Franklin D. Roosevelt, felt the need to create the Tennessee Valley Authority as part of the New Deal. This association brought electricity to rural areas through the electric cooperative, which gave rural farmers the opportunity to be a part of a democracy and make decisions about their electric company. Speaking your mind about a matter and truly being heard is a wonderful aspect of the electric co-op, as well as being American.

Not only is Randolph Electric hard at work providing power for the community, it also provides once-in-a-lifetime opportunities to students like me. I gained great business skills through two interview processes: one with REMC to apply for the Youth Tour delegation, and another to be selected as the assistant manager of our group's "Snack and H2O Co-op" formed on the trip. This "cooperative" built on the same business model as our electric co-ops gave myself



N.C. Youth Tour Delegates at the U.S. Capitol

and the other N.C. youth tourists hands-on experience with working together to make our business a success.

While in Washington, I had the opportunity to speak with Senator Burr, Senator Tillis, and



Aboard the Spirit of Washington for a Potomac River Cruise

other representatives from across North Carolina about issues facing my community at home. Having a chance to speak and be heard elevated my sense of patriotism. The American dream is a wonderful opportunity presented to us by the founders of our country. I am thankful that with hard work and Randolph Electric Membership Corporation's assistance, I got the opportunity to enjoy this experience in Washington, D.C.!



Electric Service

Asheboro(336) 625-5177
(800) 672-8212
 Robbins:(910) 948-3401
(800) 868-7014
 Power Failures:(877) REMC-OFF
(877) 736-2633
 Bill Payments:(877) 534-2319
 Office Hours:..... 8:00 am - 5:00 pm, M-F

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REMC is an equal opportunity provider & employer.

www.RandolphEMC.com



ANNOUNCING...

REconnect

A Series of Community Engagement Meetings for **R**andolph **E**lectric Member-Owners

When: Thursday, November 3, 2016
6:30 p.m. (Light Dinner Included)

Where: REMC's Operations Support
Facility located at the Asheboro
Office at 879 McDowell Road

REVIVE Your Co-op Membership

Get connected with Randolph Electric!

We're introducing a new series of casual member meetings where we can share tips and answer questions to help you make the most of your membership. Each meeting will be held at a different location each quarter, making it convenient for members to travel to a meeting near their home.

RETHINK Your Energy Strategies

- **Talk with our energy experts** to see how REMC's usage-monitoring tools can help you be a master at managing how your energy's used.
- **Curious about electric vehicles?** Find out how these can be a savings tool for both EV owners and the cooperative, and how we plan to support this growing trend across the system.
- **What's new?** Learn about new services and programs your co-op has to offer.

RESPOND Today!

Let us know if you'll be joining us!

**Please RSVP to Ravonda Hanes at (800) 672-8212 or
Ravonda.Hanes@RandolphEMC.com by October 21.**

SWAP SHOP

For Sale

Homelite Chain Saw, 14" Bar \$75. Set of golf clubs with bag, \$100. 336-581-3565.

Nigerian Dwarf Goat Kids, many colors available, prices range from \$75-\$125. 336-953-3776.

Pigmy goats, all colors, male & female. \$60 ea. 336-873-7805.

1998 Chevy S-10 ZR2 V-6 4.3 Su/Cab Automatic, 4WD, 152,000 miles. \$3,850. 2003 Ford Ranger V-6 3.0, 5-speed manual transmission. \$2,000. 336-879-3433.

Troy-Bilt Horse Model Tiller, Electric Start, 6HP Tecumseh Engine, \$400. 336-824-7339.

4 bow back, curved & turned dining room chairs, 2 have arms 2 do not, sturdy, \$60. White full size bed, headboard, foot board, & rails with night stand & chest of drawers, 1970's with gold spray detail, \$300. 336-475-5411.

Chore-Time Su/Plus Selector PNT +AVS45 Part #33800F. \$1,000. 336-857-2368.

Mortar Mixer, practically new, processes 8 bags. \$1,000 OBO. 336-625-4298.

Tesoro Compare & Silver Umax metal detectors, GC, \$225. 336-963-5706.

Weeping Willow Trees & Cattails. \$5 ea. 336-879-2320.

Zareba fence charger, 25 mile, like new, \$65. 336-879-5298.

Presto 16-qt. Cooker Canner. 336-629-3342.

6 wedding dresses, various sizes. 336-879-2925.

Microfiber sofa, tan, GC, \$300. 336-953-6763.

1986 GT Convertible Mustang, red with white top, one owner. \$18,000 neg. Heirloom quilts made in the early 1940's. \$125 each OBO. 336-629-2560.

Bath Lift Seat, battery operated, \$1300 value, sell for \$800. Parts for food truck, \$30. 336-625-1917.

Very old genuine antique brass bed, \$480. Custom made "Billy Cook" western 15" saddle, \$450. Antique settee, newly recovered, \$300. 910-464-3033.

Airstream Vintage camper, 1969 Ambassador, fully equipped, VGC. Must see to appreciate, many original features, selling for \$10,000. 336-409-5450 or email highfalls_eagle@yahoo.com.

Kenwood Stereo with tuner, dual cassette deck, 6-disk CD changer, equalizer, & 4 speakers, all in an oak cabinet. EC. \$200 OBO. 336-857-0138 or 336-301-2920.

Cleaned deer corn, 50 lb. bags, \$6 ea. Cleaned Feed Wheat, 50 lb. bags, \$8 ea. 336-622-2480 or 336-736-0390.

Alan Kulwicki #7 Racing Jacket, XL, red, blue, cream satin. New handmade quilts, F,Q,K. Will also repair & finish quilts. Set of 15 pocket knives. 336-625-4548.

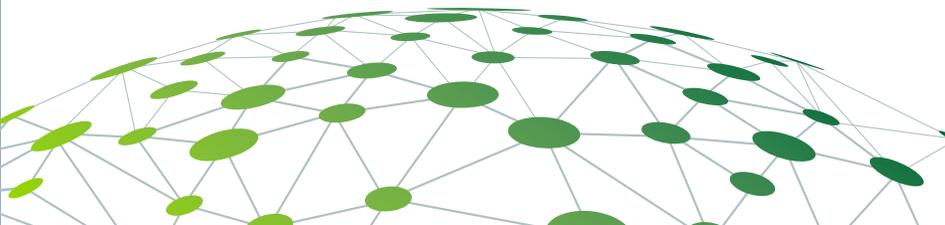
46 acres of land (28 acres cleared field, 15 acres wooded & ~3 acres of adjoining building lots) in SW Randolph school district. All property with highway & street frontage. \$180,000 for all. Will not divide. 336-963-2941 or 336-653-6040.

FOR RENT: 3 BR SW Mobile Home, \$475/month. Lot for rent located in High Falls area, \$150/month. 910-464-3459.

FOR RENT: 2 BR SW Mobile Home, Franklinville area. 336-639-0323.

WANTED: Someone in the area of Bennett, Erect, Robbins, or Coleridge that works on sewing machines. 336-879-2320.

Members email Swap Shop items to
General@RandolphEMC.com



People Helping People Awards \$10,000 in Community Grants

Randolph Electric Membership Corporation's People Helping People (PHP) Program recently awarded \$10,000 to six local nonprofit agencies as part of a special Community Grants program. Funding for the awards was made possible by money that PHP received from national cooperative lender Co-Bank's Sharing Success matching grant program.

Registered 501(c)(3) organizations in Alamance, Moore, Montgomery, Chatham and Randolph counties were eligible to apply for funding up to \$2,000 to implement programs or purchase needed equipment to facilitate a program that would help make a positive impact in the communities where Randolph EMC member-owners reside.

"All grant applications were carefully reviewed by the People Helping People Board, noted Uretha Smith, PHP's Board Chairwoman. "It's amazing how many great projects our local nonprofits are working on and we are honored to have the opportunity to help make a positive impact in our home communities," she added.



REMC Board President Bob Wright and Kathleen Duckworth, REMC's Communication & Outreach Specialist, award \$2,000 to Celena Fleming and Patrick O'Hara with the Randolph-Asheboro YMCA on behalf of PHP.

"We are extremely grateful to have the grant from Co-Bank again this year, which will help ensure we are able to continue to support our community. We are proud to award these grants and know our support will impact many families, friends and members of the communities that we serve," Smith said.

People Helping People enables members to "round up" their monthly electric bills to the nearest dollar. The extra change goes into the People Helping People account, which is used to provide financial support to individuals and organizations within the five counties served by Randolph EMC.



2016 Community Grants

Adventures Beyond Classrooms (ABC), \$1,000

In conjunction with Communities in Schools, ABC will use the awarded grant funds to help pay for class field trips for students whose families can't afford to pay for those trips.

Prancing Horse Foundation, \$2,000

Funding will support therapeutic riding programs that provides services to special needs children and adults in Moore County.

Randolph County Partnership for Children, \$2,000

Money will be used to support the Reach Out and Read program. During their first well-child visit, every child between the ages of six months and five years will receive a new, developmentally-appropriate children's book to take home and keep.

Randolph-Asheboro YMCA, \$2,000

Funding from this grant will be used to help bridge the achievement gap by enhancing the literacy of the children they serve, through the purchasing of reading materials to use in summer and after-school tutoring programs.

Randolph County Safe Kids, \$2,000

Money received will aid in the purchasing of new child safety items for programming purposes.

Friends of Weymouth - AIMS (Authors in Moore Schools), \$1,000

Each school year, AIMS arranges visits by national bestselling authors and illustrators to each K-5 Elementary Schools in Moore County. This grant will fund free, personalized and autographed books to each student at Robbins Elementary, following an author event this school year.

Be Wary of Potential Scams



Members have recently reported receiving fraudulent calls from scammers posing as REMC employees. Falling for a scam could prove very expensive, resulting in stolen identity, bank and credit card fraud, and, in the case of those believing their electric bill has been paid, power being disconnected for non-payment.

Keep these tips in mind to avoid being scammed:

- Randolph EMC will NEVER call and ask for sensitive personal information over the phone.
- The co-op's policy is not to contact members to solicit personal information, simply to notify them that an account is past due. When account payment, collections or disconnect services do become necessary, the co-op will not demand that a member pay in any specific way. Before giving out personal information, consider initiating the call to the co-op yourself.

- REMC employees visit a home only in response to a service request. If a service call has not been scheduled or requested, do not allow the person to enter your house.
- When an employee or contractor does come in response to a service call, check identification and make sure the service truck is clearly marked with the Randolph EMC logo.

It's important to note that Randolph EMC does use phone calls to notify members of a past-due balance or pending disconnection, to conduct member satisfaction surveys, or to verify that an outage has been restored. When in doubt of whether a call is legitimate or not, the best thing to do is hang up and call your local cooperative office.

SHARE YOUR

Bright

**Hurry! The deadline for applications is
September 23, 2016!**



**FOR AN EDUCATIONAL
GRANT OF UP TO \$2,000**

REMC is awarding \$12,000 for creative, innovative classroom-based projects that would otherwise not be possible. All applications must be submitted electronically through the Bright Ideas website at www.NCBrightIdeas.com by the final deadline of September 23, 2016.

AWARE

a word about
Randolph Electric
by Dale Lambert, CEO



Dear Members,

Every so often I tend to just ramble about things. At least that's what my wife and co-workers tell me, so I guess it must be true. Well, fortunately (or maybe unfortunately for you), I'm just in a rambling mindset today...and so the article goes.

As I write this article the first of August, thunderstorm activity has been a hot topic of conversation lately. With an electrical system that spans from the southern Guilford County line to Pinehurst, Lake Tillery to Goldston, and Mount Gilead to Snow Camp, there's a good chance that any storms that cross central North Carolina will hit some section of the Randolph EMC system.

If it comes through the central part of the state, we see the effects of it. You can see in the graphs shown below that we experienced almost double the storm activity and outages this July versus the past two years.

Our line personnel and dispatch staff have been really stretched lately working long hours to respond to outages from the storms, and I would like to say how much I appreciate their efforts.

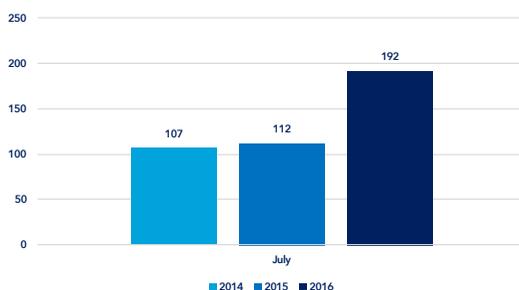
I was a volunteer fireman for several years and the mindset of first responders is that they are always on call to respond to an emergency at any time—day or night, rain or shine, hot or cold, ice or snow. And it's because there is a desire in their hearts to help people in need.

And let me say here that the entire Randolph EMC organization deeply appreciates our first responders, firefighters, rescue and law enforcement personnel. We get to work closely with them during weather events and emergency situations in our five-county service area, and they are to be commended for the great job they do.

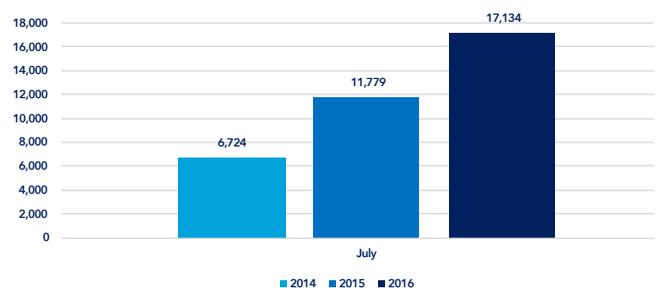
As I was headed to work yesterday morning on Dixie Drive in Asheboro, I rolled up next to a N.C. State Trooper. I motioned for him to roll down his window, and with some hesitation, he did. I told him how much his dedication to serve and protect was appreciated and for him to have a safe day.

July Outage Comparison

Number of Outages



Total Outage Time in Minutes



You're probably thinking that if he was sitting behind me with the blue lights going, I would not be as appreciative. I can promise you, I would have made the same statement anyway. Your co-op employees are also first responders. No matter the weather conditions, they are committed to serving you. The line and dispatch center personnel are on a rotation schedule, which means someone is always ready to take outage calls and respond. Lately, though, your employee team has been responding on their days and evenings off on a regular basis. And they do so without hesitation because they know you are depending on them to restore power and get your lives back to normal as quickly as possible.

Safety is the most important part of each employee's job, though. There are times when a power line stays energized even though the pole or structure is damaged. I have told our line personnel many times that if there is ever a safety concern when working an energized line, they have the authority to de-energize the line, no questions asked. As much effort as we put into preventing and restoring outages to keep your lights on, I would much rather have you or me inconvenienced for a period of time, than have an employee or contractor injured. It's just not worth it.

I can't pass up the opportunity to stress the importance of safety to you as well. Never, never, never assume that a downed power line is de-energized. If you encounter a downed line or a tree on a line, stay back and keep others away. Do not touch anything that is in contact with, or in the vicinity of, a downed power line. This applies to service lines, as well. Even if they are insulated, they should be considered dangerous and treated the same as a high-voltage line.

I suppose I could go on for pages and pages filled with things I'd like to share about our operations and safety, and about the services we offer, too. Rather than doing all that, I'd like to invite you to be a part of a new initiative that's meant to help you get more from your cooperative membership.

On Thursday, November 3, we will kick off a series of member community meetings called *REconnect*. These meetings will be held quarterly in different areas of the system, making it convenient for you to attend one near your home.

This first meeting will be held in our new Operations Support Facility at the Asheboro office at 6:30 p.m. We plan to serve a light dinner and discuss a wide range of topics that are important to you, including electric vehicles, energy monitoring and efficiency tips, and community solar and other service offerings. More information is included in this issue of Watts Working, so please mark your calendars and let us know you're coming. We are looking forward to having a new forum where we can connect with you on a personal level and you can engage in being a member-owner of your cooperative.

Well, I'm about rambled out due to the limited space I'm given in the newsletter. Your Board of Directors and employee team appreciate the opportunity to work for you. We don't take lightly the trust you have placed in us, and we will continue to work hard at serving you with safe and exceptional service.

Cooperatively Yours,



Dale F. Lambert,
Chief Executive Officer

DIY Home Energy Audit Check List

Whether your house is old or new, chances are you are spending more on energy costs than necessary. By understanding how your home uses energy, you can determine the best ways to modify energy use and keep more money in your wallet. With a little time, you can conduct a baseline energy audit of your house to identify where you are losing energy (and money). Use this checklist and take notes on problems you find as you walk through your home.

TIP: If your home has multiple levels, work from the top down. Begin in your highest floor and work your way down to the lowest floor. Once you have completed the audit, take a look at the findings. Prioritize actions based on your time and budget, weighing where you can get the most impact for your investment.



INSULATION & DUCTWORK

Attic

- Insulation spread evenly
- Insulation in good condition
- Attic vents are unblocked by insulation
- Attic access doors properly insulated and sealed

Walls and floors

- Minimum R-value of 19 for perimeter walls
- Minimum R-value of 25 for under-floor insulation

Basement

- Ductwork insulated and sealed
- Hot water pipes insulated
- Water heater insulated, if in unconditioned space

HEATING & COOLING

- Air supply vents unblocked by furniture or curtains
- Return air registers unblocked by furniture
- Return air handler filters clean
- HVAC system had annual maintenance check-up
- Programmable thermostat installed and programmed

AIR INFILTRATION

Windows and Doors

- Windows close and lock properly
- Window gaskets in good condition
- Window trim sealed and painted
- Doors properly weather stripped
- Doors close and latch properly

Exterior Penetrations

- Plumbing and wire openings sealed:
 - Kitchen cabinets
 - Bathroom cabinets
 - Utility room
- Fireplace damper sealed tightly

APPLIANCES & LIGHTING

- Refrigerator condenser coils clean
- Refrigerator door gasket tight
- Unused refrigerators and freezers unplugged
- Water heater set to 120 degrees or below
- Dishwasher energy-saving feature turned on
- Washing machine loads run with cold water when possible

Well Pump

- Operating properly
- Good pressure
- No leaks

Lighting

- Compact fluorescent bulbs (CFLs) used
- Outdoor lighting automatically triggered by motion or darkness

Remember—the audit won't save you money unless you act on your findings!